THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) In respect of road transport sector the National Transportation Safety Board have recommended provision of road signs at potentially dangerous locations, design guidelines in the construction of pedestrians foot-paths in urban areas, and safety precautions on Causeways. These have been communicated to all the State Governments and UT Administrations.

(b) While communicating design guidelines for footpaths, the Board has observed that the designs and the lay out should be such as would facilitate pedestrian traffic and ensure safety of the pedestrians. It does not deal with the question of pavement dwellers and footpath vendors.

(c) Position is being ascertained. Although aware of the constraints caused on the movement of pedestrian traffic due to footpath dwellers and footpath vendors, the National Transportation Safety Board have not made any recommendations on this issue, at the present juncture.

Reservation of Export Cargo for Indian Ships

926. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reserve 40 per cent of export cargo in Indian ships, if not, what are the reasons therefor and since when this issue is pending;

(b) what are the suggestions and view points of the different concerned Ministries and whether these are complimentary or conflicting with each other;

(c) what is the percentage of export cargo carried by domestic liners and the total foreign exchange earned by the Indian Shipping industry; and

(d) whether the U.N. Conference on shipping has suggested 40 per cent of cargo share for indigenous industry, if so, what steps have been taken by Government to protect and augment export cargo by Indian ships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The Government have not so far decided about any such reservation. The matter is pending since 6-10-1983 when the United Nations Convention on Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences came into force. The main reason is that the export organisations have voiced their opposition to any element of compulsion in the proposal. Ministry of Commerce have also expressed certain reservations about the modalities and time frame in which cargo support should be given to national lines.

(c) The percentage of export cargo carried by Indian lines is as under:

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Total exports	Indian lines share	Percentage	Foreign lines share	Percentage
1985-86	39.44	7.28	18.5	32.16	81.5
1986-87	41.59	8.21	19.7	33.38	80.3
1987-88	39.26	7.24	18.4	32.05	81.6

The net foreign exchange earnings on revenue account by Indian shipping industry during 1988-89 is estimated at Rs. 672 crores.

(d) Following steps have been taken by the Government to increase the share of Indian shipping:—

(i) India has entered into bilateral shipping agreements with some countries which provide for parity in cargo liftings and freight earnings;

(ii) There are standing instructions to Public Sector Undertakings/ Government Departments to negotiate as far as possible, C&F exports and FOB imports;

(iii) Share of Indian shipping lines in the carriage of Iron-ore exported by MMTC has been brought up through successful commercial negotiations.

(iv) In the case of export shipments carried from Indian ports in Indian vessels to discharge port in overeas market the exporters are given the REP licence on the exports in question at the rate of 10 per cent higher than their normal replenishment rate, i.e. 11 per cent as against the normal rate of 10 per cent and so on.

Maintenance of Aircraft

927. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a high level committee under the Chairmanship of CMD of National Projects Construction Corporation Limited to examine the induction and training of engineers, condition of workshops and equipments and other various matters connected with adequate maintenance of aircraft in the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, what is the full composition of the Committee;

(c) by when the Committee is likely to submit its report to Government; and

(d) what are the details of the aspects on which Committee propose to examine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition of the committee is:

1. Sh. J. K. Mehra, Chiarman

2. AVM Gowrie S. G. Thate, Air Headquarter—Member

3. Sh. R. K. Hasija, Air India—Member

4. Sh. K. B. Ganesan, Former DGCA—Member

5. Sh. S. P. Marya, Dy. DGCA—Member.

(c) The Committee has been asked to submit its report within 4 months.

(d) The terms of reference of the Committee is to examine the induction and training of engineers, the conditions of workshops and equipmment, awarding of various licences and endorsements, maintenance procedures and all other matters connected with adequate maintenance of aircraft in Indian Airlines. It will also examine the aspects of requlatory control and monitoring procedures of air-worthiness.

Acquisition of Defective Vessels by Shipping Corporation of India

928. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has acquired defective vessels from Romanian and East German Shipyards;

(b) if so whether the Shipping Corporation of India has yet to pay nearly Rupees 10 crores of the contract price;